

SECRET

D R A F T

8 July 1965

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, NPIC

Declass Review by NGA.

FROM: Assistant for Plans and Development

SUBJECT: Closed Circuit TV System

1. On 11 June 1965, a demonstration of a closed circuit TV with a video tape recorder was presented by [REDACTED] This demonstration sparked or rekindled a desire in the minds of many to have a secure closed circuit TV network within the center. A communications system such as this would have many obvious uses within the building, saving valuable man hours as well as speeding up the dissemination of information.

25X1

2. Previously, whenever closed circuit TV was brought up in plans for the center, it was considered impractical because of the cost and secure installation requirements. As the center becomes more complex and the cost of labor increases, however, the savings which TV could bring increase to the point where a closed circuit TV system ^{may} ~~is~~ not only ^{be} practical but a necessity. ^{size of the} The security problem ^{is} ~~are~~ still **unknown** for the most part, but until the system is in-house and working, the amount of shielding necessary can not be determined.

3. In an installation such as this, where photography and graphics are the raw materials as well as part of the end product, only a portion of the communiques can be transmitted verbally. Quite often communications are incomplete unless personal contact is made and the appropriate visual aids are hand carried. Were it

SECRET

SECRET

readily possible to communicate visually as well as orally, requests could be transmitted more quickly, guesswork could be replaced by accurate information, re-do orders would be reduced and intelligence briefings could be conducted on the spot within seconds of an important find. These are just a few general areas in which closed circuit TV would prove to be ~~an invaluable~~ ^{great} aid.

4. Several specific uses for a video system have been suggested by the operating divisions within the center. Below is a listing of some of these ideas.

a) A link between IAD and PAG would help coordinate the concurrent analysis of new material. With a video link, status boards could be viewed easily to avoid duplication of effort and new discoveries could be flashed instantly to the proper component for a follow-through.

b) A hook-up from CSD to various stations within IAD and PAG would enable P.I.s to crosscheck current photographic material with data stored in CSD files without having to go through time consuming requisitioning or hand carrying folders of information. Such a link could also pave the way for an automated central information retrieval system with remote station controls to be operated by the P.I.s.

c) The communication line now in existence between the P.I. ordering an enlarged print and the technician in the photo lab, is unreliable. The area of interest on a photograph can not always be described in a few brief words on a requisition form; the readout of figures from a grid is not foolproof either. A mistake can cause

SECRET

SECRET

a delay of hours to days. With a TV circuit connecting the P.I. to the lab technician, selected areas could be pointed out easily, reducing errors to a minimum.

d) During the normal course of work in Publications Division, questions often arise over briefing boards, reports, drawings, etc. which can not be answered verbally. Here too, a visual communications network would save a lot of time and effort in reducing personal visitations.

e) TV links between the analysts in TID and the P.I.s would enable the P.I.s to review the latest coverage plots, to direct the photogrammetrists in the mensuration of select areas and to receive various types of other graphical information.

f) A closed circuit TV system would enable a P.I. to brief the Director on a new discovery almost as quickly as the discovery is made.

g) Instructions concerning the operations of a certain piece of equipment could be carried to many TV stations throughout the center and reduce the number of actual briefings.

h) If a video tape recorder were included within a TV network in NPIC, several new opportunities would become available. Staff meetings could be recorded for briefing lower staff and division personnel. Live briefings could be recorded for playback to absentees. Canned briefings could be produced for indoctrinating new employees, for training many personnel individually on a new piece of equipment, for briefing many people on new information

SECRET

SECRET

available or for general distribution of current intelligence. In this way a briefing could be prepared, reviewed and edited with a minimum of time and effort.

5. In reviewing the advantages of a closed circuit TV network over the present system, **three** significant advances become evident:

- a) Increase in ease, speed and versatility in communication
- b) ~~Increase in flow of information~~ *Increase in flow of knowledge and skill to operational personnel through briefings and training programs.*
- c) Increase in ease, speed and versatility in recording information.

These advances would be expensive, however. A rough estimate as to the price of a small in-house network would fall in the

25X1 range. This would consist of perhaps 20 stations with

one or two portable video tape recorders and appropriate switching gear. *A decision on the size and complexity of such a network would be dependent on the results of the study recommended in paragraph 8 below.* A full time TV maintenance man would also be required. Hundreds of small problems would evolve as with any new system.

6. A preliminary investigation has also revealed several technical aspects which would require a great deal of research should ~~a "green light"~~ *approval* be given for an in-house TV network. The type and model of the various components would need to be decided, weighing the cost, quality, application, reliability, compatability, etc. The physical security problems must be solved also, such as the physical layout of the network, the switching arrangements, the identification of the receiving party, etc. Technical security hazards must be evaluated and shielding requirements determined. Finally operating procedures must be established and the installation must be monitored. Some of the basic research into these areas,

SECRET

SECRET

however, has already been accomplished by the ^{Development Branch} ~~technical~~ staff.

None of the above problems appears insurmountable, ~~if enough time~~
~~and thought can be applied.~~

7. A closed circuit TV system within NPIC would increase the flow of information and reduce the time of information processing. If the system was expanded to include CIA headquarters, the Pentagon, the White House, etc. even more savings in time would be evident. The cost of the TV network is high in comparison to a telephone network, but low in comparison to the expenditure of valuable and irreplaceable man power now ^{lost} ~~wasted for lack of one~~, or to the cost of acquiring the raw intelligence material. A closed circuit TV system would be a definite step forward in improving the capabilities of the NPIC to carry out its mission in an efficient manner.

8. *Recom.*

GTS

Memo to Director, NPIC

Subject: Closed Circuit TV System

1. On 11 June 1965 a demonstration

~~was presented by~~ [] of a closed

25X1

circuit TV with a video tape recorder was

presented by [] This demonstration

sparked or rekindled a desire ^(in the minds of many) to have a

^{secure} closed circuit TV ^{network} ~~system~~ within the center.

^{communications}
A ⁿ system such as this would have many

obvious uses within the building ~~and would~~

^{saving}
~~save~~ valuable man hours as well as speeding up

the dissemination of information

2. Previously, whenever closed circuit television was brought up in plans for the center, it was considered impractical because of the cost and secure installation requirements. As the center becomes more complex and the cost of labor increases, however, the savings which TV could bring increase to the point where a closed circuit TV system is not only practical but a necessity. The security problems are still unknown for the most part, but until the system is in house and working,

the amount of radiation which can not be determined can not be determined.

3. In an ^{installation} ~~center~~ such as this, where photography and graphics are the raw materials as well as part of the end product, only ~~part~~ a portion of the communiqués can be transmitted verbally. Quite often, ~~therefore, the~~ communications are incomplete unless ~~a~~ personal ~~contact~~ contact is made and the appropriate visual aids are hand carried. ~~As a result, requests are needed~~ ^{readily} ~~information is not always~~ Were it possible to communicate visually ^{as well as} and orally, requests could be transmitted more quickly, guesswork could be quickly replaced by accurate information, re-do

orders would be reduced and intelligence briefings could be conducted on the spot within seconds of an important find. These are just a few general areas in which closed circuit TV would ~~be~~ ^{prove to be an} invaluable aid.

4. ~~Specific~~ Several specific uses for a video system have been suggested by the operating divisions within the center.

Below is a listing of some of these ideas.

a) A link between IAD and PAC would help coordinate the concurrent analysis of

new material. With a video link, status boards

could be viewed easily to avoid duplication of effort and new discoveries could be ~~checked~~ ^{flashed} instantly to the proper component for ^{or} follow through.

b) A hook-up ~~between~~ ^{from} CSD to various stations within PAG and IAD would enable P.I.s to crosscheck current photographic material with data stored in CSD files without having to go through time consuming requisitioning or ~~physical~~ ^{hand} carrying ~~of~~ folders of information. Such a link could also pave the way for an automated ^{central} ~~re~~ information retrieval system ~~where~~ with remote station controls to be operated by the P.I.s.

8. It is recommended that an outside contracted and source be ¹cleared into NPIC; a source which has a complete knowledge of systems analysis, communications and video engineering. This source would conduct an objective evaluation as to the needs of the center in terms of communications, and video training and briefing devices. This study would ~~result~~ ^{consist} of a cost and effectiveness analysis of an in-house closed circuit TV network plus (quantity and placement, ^{the} video ¹ recommendations as to type, of equipment

~~which would be~~
necessary to support present and future requirements of the center.

9. It is also suggested that a moratorium be placed on the purchase of isolated pieces of ~~video~~ equipment which might be later incorporated into a ^{video} network. It is very possible that these items would not be compatible with a network system.